SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Actually, this problem is being considered right from 1974. In 1974, the then Prime Minister of the country, Smt. Indira Gandhi, wrote a letter to the Cabinet Secretary saying that the Government should taken action to shift the Indian Army which is there in the Red Fort. The presence of the Indian Army in 75 per cent of the total area of the Red Fort is causing problems. Now, a Public Interest Litigation is pending before the Delhi High Court. The A.S.I. is going to file an affidavit, praying the court, joining the issue, that we also want the Indian Army to be evacuated from the Red Fort area for its better upkeep. I will be holding discussions with the Defence Minister in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New water management policy

†*265. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to declare a new water policy for management of water in the Country; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The National Water Board has reviewed the existing National Water Policy 1987, and formulated an updated and revised draft National Water Policy for the development of Water Resources in the country. Declaration of the new National Water Policy depends on its adoption by the National Water Resources Council.

Regional Rural Banks in Meghalaya

*266 SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Regional Rural Banks functioning at present in Meghalaya, alongwith their locations;

(b) the details of the loan facilities provided by the banks to all the needy farmers and industrialists of the State during the last three years, year-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open more branches of the rural banks in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) One Regional Rural Bank namely Ka Bank Nongkgndong Ri Khasi Jantia is functioning at present in the State of Meghalaya. The Bank has 51 branches as on 31st March, 1999. The details of location of the branches are as under:—

District	Block	Name of branch
East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	Shillong, Rynjah, Nongmynsong, Mawlaingut, Mylliem, Mawlai and Lewduh
	Mawryngkneng	Nongkrem, Sohryngkham, Smit, Tynring
	Mawsynram	Lawbah, Tyrsad
	Mawkynriew	Mawkynriem, Mawlat
	Pynursla	Laitlyngkot, Pynursla,
	Sheela Bholaganj	Mawkdok
	Mawphlang	Nongspung, Mawphlang, Sohiong
West Khasi Hills	Mawkyrwat	Mawkyrwat, Mawthawpdah, Pongkung, Pariong
	Mawshynrut	Aradonga, Riangdo, Senduli, Shailang,
	Nongstoin	Rambrai, Nongstoin, Markasa,
	Mairang	Myriaw, Kynshi, Nongkhlaw, Nongthliew,
Jaintia Hills	Laskien	Mawkaiaw, Shangpung, Looksi,
	Thadlaskien	Khanduli, Barato, Jowai,
	Khlieshriat C & RD Block	Umkiang, Rymbai, Lumshnong, Sutnga, Bapung,
	Amlarem	Muktapur, Nongtalang,
Ribhoi	Umsning Nongpoh	Bhoilymbong, Nongpoh

(b) The details of loan provided by this Bank during the last three years (Year-wise) is given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Purpose	Year		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
S.T. (Corp) Loans	64.63	69.10	75.48
Term Loans (Agriculture & Allied)	83.08	119.95	145.74
Rural Artisans	29.80	38.48	61.04
Other Industries*	358.08	352.87	274.17

*Including financing under retail trade, self employment etc.

(c) to (e) As per the extant policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with regard to opening of branches, Regional Rural Banks, (RRBs) are required to send their proposals to RBI after obtaining the recommendations of National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). At present, no proposal is under consideration for opening of new branches by the Ka Bank Nongkgndong Ri Khasi Jantia.

Denationalisation of Banks

†*267. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to denationalise all the fourteen nationalised banks;

(b) if so, whether there is any time-frame to denationalise them;

(c) whether such denationalisation affects the Government's credit policy; and

(d) if so, the details of fall-out of denationalisation on the unemployed youth in getting loans from these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.